

B2 9. (Amended) The sensing device of claim ~~19~~<sup>1</sup> wherein the first power source comprises a first power source having a power level.

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B3 36. (Amended) The sensing device of claim ~~19~~<sup>1</sup> wherein the transmitting means comprises an encoder.

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B4 38. (Amended) The sensing device of claim ~~19~~<sup>1</sup> wherein the receiving means of the base module comprises a receiver and a decoder, whereby the receiver receives the transmitted information from the transmitting means and relays the information to the decoder, and the decoder conveys the transmitted information to the first processing means.

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B5 41. (Amended) The sensing device of claim ~~19~~<sup>1</sup> wherein the first processing means of the base module comprises a first microprocessor.

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B6 <sup>56</sup>  
~~57~~. (Amended) The sensing device of claim ~~19~~<sup>1</sup> further comprising a telephone jack, the telephone jack allowing direct connection to the telephone line of the base module.

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B7 <sup>56</sup>  
~~64~~. (Amended) The sensing device of claim ~~19~~<sup>1</sup> further comprising

137 disconnecting means for disconnecting the call to the pre-programmed telephone number after a predetermined number of rings and before the receiving means has answered the call,

whereby the disconnecting means prevents the call from being completed, and

wherein the disconnecting means comprises a modem.

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~~55~~. (Amended) The sensing device of claim ~~64~~ wherein the predetermined number of rings comprises no more than four rings.

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~~56~~. (Amended) The sensing device of claim ~~19~~ wherein the identifying means comprises a second processing means and a CALLER ID unit, the CALLER ID unit being connected to the second processing means.

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~~58~~. (Amended) The sensing device of claim ~~19~~ wherein the identifying means comprises a CALLER ID unit.

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~~58~~. (Amended) The sensing device of claim ~~19~~ wherein the base module further comprises reporting means for reporting conditions at a close proximity to the base module.

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~~73~~. (Amended) The method of claim ~~95~~ wherein the conditions at the remote location comprise conditions of a container at the remote location.

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<sup>77</sup>  
~~78~~. (Amended) The method of claim <sup>71</sup>~~95~~ wherein the detecting step comprises using remote sensors.

<sup>78</sup>  
~~79~~. (Amended) The method of claim <sup>71</sup>~~95~~ wherein the detecting step comprises using switch inputs.

<sup>79</sup>  
~~80~~. (Amended) The method of claim <sup>71</sup>~~95~~ wherein the detecting step comprises using an ultrasonic ranging unit.

<sup>80</sup>  
~~81~~. (Amended) The method of claim <sup>71</sup>~~95~~ wherein the reading step and the transmitting step occur in a transmitting module.

B11 <sup>88</sup>  
~~89~~. (Amended) The method of claim <sup>71</sup>~~95~~ wherein the receiving step, the selectively processing step, the calling step and the conveying step all occur in a base module.

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(Twice Amended) A method of monitoring conditions at a remote location, comprising the steps of:

- B<sup>12</sup>
- (a) detecting the conditions at the remote location;
  - (b) reading the conditions at the remote location;
  - (c) transmitting information regarding the conditions at the remote location;
  - (d) receiving the transmitted information;
  - (e) selectively processing the transmitted information to determine which of a list of pre-programmed telephone numbers to call;
  - (f) calling the pre-programmed telephone number;
  - (g) conveying the information; and
  - (h) identifying the remote location of the call,

wherein the selectively processing step comprises the steps of:

- (a) firstly verifying the information received by the receiving step;
- (b) secondly verifying the information received by the reporting step;
- (c) matching a condition with a telephone number from the list of pre-programmed telephone numbers, the condition being verified by the firstly verifying step and the secondly verifying step; and
- (d) sending the information regarding the condition to the calling step, and

wherein the firstly verifying step comprises the step of waiting for two consecutive transmissions of the same information from

B12 the transmitting step, the waiting step ensuring that the transmissions comprise valid information.

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B13 ~~104~~. (Amended) The method of claim ~~95~~ <sup>71</sup> further comprising the step of detecting whether a telephone line used by the calling step is off-hook.

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